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### BIOGRPHICAL SKETCHES. OLD SETTLERS.

### MR. SAMUEL D. BARBER.

Among the earliest settlers of the town of Mission is a well known and highly respected citizen, Mr. Samuel D. Barber. He was born in Sullivan county, East Tennessee, April, 11, 1804. His father was a native of the Empire State, his birth place being near Grove, and John S. Armstrong's run-away Stillwater, N. Y., and his grandfather, St. meon Barber, owned the buck wheat field Job, raised the cabin which had a plain nated in making the former general and his one of the gable ends of the house, and, be army, prisoners of war to the Yankee sol- low, a very spacious fire place, ornamented

wherein Gen. Burgoyne, the luckless English general, had a rather embarrassing interview with General Gates, which termihap, to keep out of the way of stray flying forerunner of glass. bullets. Mr. Barber's aucestry were probably English on his father's side, while his races invariably produces a steady, sturdy needs, joined in the erection of a log school courage and scrupulous honesty, qualities covered as were the cabins, with clap boards, which have particularly distinguished the pine of any sort being an unknown material family of which we write. A few years in those days, in this region. The seats after the birth of Samuel D., his father were split bass-wood logs, the split side up, moved the family from East to West Tennes- the larger splinters hewn as smooth as possee, but not liking that wild country, sible with a broad axe, with three legs at changed his location in 1819, to Dearborn either end, and innocent of backs. These county, Indiana, but while escaping from half a log benches were so high that the legs the rugged mountains of Tennessee, he still of the smaller fry could not reach the floor, found no land of promise of anything else than a life of grubbing stumps; for his lot the knees upward at a sharp angle towards had east him among one of the heaviest tim their chins; but as preserving a good aver-

bered regions of the Hoosier State, liere young Samuel worked like a Trojan, picked grew up, and became thirty years old, before he realized that it might be possible to he married Miss Elizabeth Neff, a daughter of Ebenezer Neff, and sister of Henry Neff, of Ottawa, also early settlers of La Salle county. In 1834, Mr. Barber adopted Berkeley's motto of "westward, ho!" and anticipated Greeley's advice, "go west;" and he through creeks and rivers, as best they could, making their own road much of the way, taking as much bousehold stuff and articles indispensable in a new country, as they could conveniently carry, to Cincinnati, Ohio, where they boarded a steamboat and latter part of their voyage on a good steamboat whose name he has forgotten, but whereof one Reed was captain and Wilburn

The movers arrived at Ottawa about the but six families in Ottawa and they lived on the South Side, among whom were the names of Harris and Vermet. Remaining about two weeks at the landing place, nearly opposite the mouth of the Fox river, they left for Holderman's Grove and took possess ion of an abandoned cabin, built and formerly occupied by Vattel Vermet, a Frenchman, who had long been an Indian trader and had all his days lived a nomadic life on the borders of civilization, a sort of connecting link between the whites and Indians, between whom he traded and both of whom were indispensable to his existence. Here Mr. Barber's family remained while he Mr. Barber. looked up a site for their future home. He pitched upon a nice piece of prairie and timber two miles south east of the present village of Sheridan and a mile north of Mission Creek.

was the back woodsman's inevitable log cabin. He cut the logs himself and "snaked" them in the proper season, for flour, corn meal to the building spot and got his neighbors to and other articles, which to them were lux-

fun. In fact a "log raising," was one of the everywhere and with fierce violence near Neill; and a choice bit of "Revolutionary would flock to each other's aid; when any of the fair sex happened to live within any passably convenient distance of the scene in 1834 5, were Mr. Kellogg, Mr. Holderof operations, they helped each other cook for several days before the event, the man interested taking care to provide them with a fat pig or two, chickens, venison or even beef, not forgetting an abundance of groceries, both dry and "wet," according to his means. The girls, you may be sure, took a lively interest in these "raising bees," for out of them they often raised a beau and not unfrequently a young man found his future happiness, and a pretty girl her fate at

The early settlers' pretty daughters could never have looked sweeter to the eyes of mortal man than when blooming with the rosy ripeness of youthful health, attired in raiment of rustic simplicity, ever more at ractive to pure minded men than tawdry finery and fashionable frippery. They waited at table where sat the bashful young men, supplying them with the substantials and dainties which their pretty hands had prepared especially for the occasion. The building raised, the supper eaten, the cheering glass gone around, the older men and women would retire to comfortable places. the men to smoke and talk, and the women to compare the merits of their "blessed ba musions paid in cash. Write for terms, sending tofer bies," while the young people were "trip ping it on the green" to the dulcet tones of a fiddle or two, or, if the evening was too cool, at the nearest and most commodious cabin of a neighbor; and in those days, and in those days only, all were neighbors in

every sense of the word. Passing this general description of "raisings," and not applying it to Mr. Barber's case, though it is fair to presume it was as much according to custom as circumstances allowed, we come to a brief account of it in the fact that the few near neighbors, and some others further away, at Holderman's negro, who was "the best corner man on the floor of native sod, covered with nature's pretty carpet of green grass, with a stick, stone and clay chimney on the outside of diers, during the war of the revolution; and by a crane and pot hooks with a hearth of at that time grandfather Barber was a sol. as smooth cobble stones as the bed of the dier in the Continental army and his family creek near by could supply. The windows were obliged to vacate their house in the were of the primative style, a couple or said buckwheat field, in order to give the three logs cut out, three or four feet wide two armies a fair chance to fight, and, may, and half as high, with oiled paper as the

In 1835, Mr. Barber's numerous young and yet so low that the larger pupils' feet resting upon the "carpet" aforesaid, thrust age between the students of different length of limbs, these benches were considered a success, till some genius struck the happy up such education as the woods offered, idea of building benches of different heights which included little book learning, and so as to accommodate legs of various extension. But, here a new difficulty arose in teaching them in classes, for sometimes a first class pupils legs were only long enough find a land where stumps did not grow. On for a third class bench, and often a lad of September 25, 1825, at Lawrenceburg, Ind., twelve or lifteen, two thirds grown struggling with his A B C's by the length of his pedal extremeties, was promoted to the bench of the class in the fourth reader While this was not the case at the Barber school house, the oldest of the pupils not exceeding ten years, it often happened even at a much later period in Brookfield, in this county, and Vienna, in the neighboring and his wife and four children, made their kingdom of Grundy, where a youth of 20. way through the woods, across ravines, sat on our beach, and in the intensity of his mental labors in mustering his alphabet, worked his toes, his knees and his mouth in unison and became our mortal enemy be cause we could study without repeating our lesson in a whisper, or any bodily contor tions or mental agony, such as he suffered

The first school was taught by Mr. Barber's brother William, known as Col. Wm floated down to the Mississippi, and thence Barber, a title which he acquired as a comcame up the Illinois to Ottawa, making the mander of the militia at "musters" or "general trainings" in Indiana. He afterwards represented the county of La Salle as a member of the legislature, but died several years ago. On the morning of the opening of the F. Walker the pilot. He was a brother of first school, Mr. Samuel Barber, with one of these memorable wooden benches on his Geo. E. Walker, the first sheriff of the counshoulder marching through the woods, conducted three of his older children to this primitive place of learning. Besides his middle of April, 1834. Then there were family, the children of his neighbors, J. S. Armstrong, J. A. Dart, Mr. Clum and later

others attended To Mr. and Mrs. Barber were born fifteen children. The living are Mrs. Susannah Abel, living near by Eleanor, at home: Ebenezer, bridge builder and postmaster at Marseilles; Moses and Eliphalet, at Sheridan; Marion at home and Henry D. not long since married to the youngest of Mr. John S Armstrong's children, his daughter Fannie; Benj. died 35 years ago; Jeanette, in 1859. Charlotte, when four years old; John killed in thearmy at Pittsburg landing; George in 1859; Samuel C. 1877; Sarah J. when six months dd. Mrs. Barber, a very estimable woman. beloved by all her neighbors, died Aug. 22, 1879. The widow of Samuel C. and their children Sepple J. and Zella A., live with

There were numerous "tame" i e friendly Indians around who had camps in the of Mr. Barber and often when Mrs. B. and the little ones were entirely alone, but, though they frightened her terribly at first His first attempt in the way of a house they never stole or damaged anything. They would exchange fish, berries and venison, uries. The second year of the family's res some labor, good things to eat and unlimited siege by "fever and ager," which prevailed Indians in London," by Rev. Edward D. with it.

Dr. Kendail, at Big Grove seven miles east was the nearest physician for several years

The settlers around Holderman's Grove, man and Mr. Hill, who kept stage tavern and sold liquor to the Indians. Ottawa was the nearest post office for a time, then one letter payable at the receiver's end of the ourney, and if the victim of a letter, often mere trash, sometimes a "dun" or the an nouncement of the death of some loved one, hadn't the necessary cash, and no coon skins, muskrat hides, deers, roles, or other article of a certain money value upon which to realize the needful quarter, his letter would thorn in his side, till he could redeem it. It was not an unusual thing to see some of the pioneers who seldom got letters, soudpostage upon a letter which had unexpectedly turned up at the post office Preachers were scarce and religious exercises were used to put in an appearance occasionally, and first exhorted and delivered moral homlies at Mr. Armstrong's double log cabin, built near Mr Barber's dwelling. Rev. Mr Wright is believed to have preached the first from far and near to be edified by prayers

In the summer of 1849 cholera mysteriously appeared in the family of Mr. Sutton Barber's, Mr. W. took it first. His daugh ter, Mrs. Mary Yerkes, who live tin a small house in the yard enclosing her father's dwelling, was also siezed by it soon after. shricking, while in the paroxysms of cramps, and at intervals of ease, enquired after each other and sent affectionate messages to and fro, but the fell destroyer soon denied them that comfort and both expired in the agontes peculiar to that fearful malady, she dying a ew minutes before him. Henry Whitehead, brother, then took it and his aged mother also was stricken down, both dying in an prostrated and died, in all fourteen persons old and young out of the same family died While of cholera within a very few days. iting the afflicted, partly for their own security against the epidemic, and partly be cause the family was large and there were always enough well grown persons in the family to care for the sick, additional help would be cum'ersome and unnecessary. But | ing and valuable nuber. Mr. and Mrs. Barber's notions of hospitality would not permit them to refrain from good offices for the afflicted and sick, so every day dainties and necessaries of life cooked nicely, were carried and left at Whitehead's gate, the inmates not coming withing contaminating distance, till their mother, Eleanor Lewis, was a native of people were at the age demanding educa- kind benefactors had departed and gone a here we are introduced to new kinds of ware, Reading, Pa , and of Welsh descent. The tional faculties. Accordingly he and his safe distance away. Mrs. Jesse Abel took the making of which will be interesting. to be cholera. She thought she was dying one evening, and desired a cottin procured and industrious progeny, the chief charac. house, which was of the earliest known type without delay, so that she might be buried "Fairy Folks" now brings us to the waterteristics of whose character are personal of such structures - a rough log building immediately and thus lesson the danger of folks, a beautiful and charming race. The spreading the disease. Word of what was entire number is just as good as good can be. wanted was sent to their next neighbor, J. S. Armstrong, who procured a coffin at Newark, but to his surprise on reaching home with it, found her much better, and so she remained three or four days and seemed on a fair way to recovery, when she lied quite suddenly, leaving it doubtful whether her fatal tliness was cholera or not

> Mr. Barber found an Indian grave on the reek bank consisting of a mound covered it was the grave of a squaw who was married to a white man whom the Indians named Chee Chock (long legged and short hodied). He was a trader who used to self whisky to the Indians, buying it by the keg to the best in special work. or half barrel at Ottawa and polling it up Fox river in a boat.

Mr. Barber though in his 83rd year of his ige, is hearty, healthy and cheerful and his mind is clear and active, and he enjoys as the fruits of a long and honest life, the hap py consciousness of having never intentionally wronged any person whomsoever

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## The Magazines,

Mr. Moncure D. Conway opens the hand ome June Magazine of American History with a brilliant leading paper on "Freder icksburg First and Last," in continuation of his graphic historical ske ches of that old Virginia town, begun in the March number of this excellent publication. Among the illustrations to Mr. Conway's vigorous text, are portraits of John M. Daniel, editor of the Richmond Examiner, who in his day wielded an influence unexampled in South ern journalism, and of Judge Slaughter, the notable mayor of Fredericksburg in the time of the late war; with views of historic houses and places. Mrs Lamb, the editor, contributes a brief, well written speech of the career of Major General Robert Moncton, colonial governor of New York about 1762, of whom little has been hitherto published or known, and whose elegant military portrait graces the front page of the number. Hon. Isaac T Smith, His Siamese Majesty's consul general, writes an interesting account of an old Boston "Historic Meeting House," accompanied with a quaint picture made by him in 1828. Frank G. Carpenter furnishes a delightfully readable paper on "Our Presidents as Horsemen." A notable feature of the Magazine this month is the second valwoods. They frequently called at the cabin uable contribution by J. G. Bourinot, LL. D., of the House of Commons, at Ottawa, en "Canada During the Victorial Era." Another June attraction is an intertaining description of the great artist, Jean Francois Millet, and of some of his masterpieces, now in America, by Albert Wolff; there is also

events of early times. The women folks the swamps and along the river bottoms. History' by Hon, J. O. Dykman. This great historical monthly is without a rival in its special domain.

The June number of Harper's Magazine opens with a notable article on "The Excavations at Susa," by Madame Jane Dieulawas established at Hills' and afterward re- foy. This is the first authentic and commoved to Newark. Postage was 25 cents a plete account published of the remarkable discoveries unearthed at the site of Darius's Capital, in Persia, by the archieological mission sent by the French Government under the charge of M. Marcel Diculator, 1881 6. The treasures of ancient art there found are now being arranged in the Louvre Museum, have to lie on its edge in the post office win- at Paris Madame Diculator relates the low an advertisement of his poverty and a inside history of this remarkable expedition, showing against what enormous difficulties the explorers contended. It is impossible ding back home "like a house afire," or as if for the modest narrator to conceal her own theirs was, to get a pair of chickens to pay courageous and valuable assistance in this important services, Malame Diculatey refew and far between in those days. A Rev. cently received a distinction rarely accorded erend Mr. Royal and a man named Green to a woman-the Cross of the Legion of Honor. Among the remarkable results of the mission was the exhumation of the palor sometime the largest structure in that ace of Darius and Artaxerxes, whose magneighborhood, until a scholl house was nificent remains suggest the marvelous splender of the Persian monarchy in its susermon at the school house soon after it was premacy-one of the finest edifices of an ompleted, and as it was the first school tiquity for architectural beauty and elegant house for many miles around, people came embellishments. The fortifications of the city were also excavated, and hundreds of rich objects of sculpture, enamel, bronze, iron, etc., with an abundance of inscriptions tombs, and skeletons, whose study will Whitehead, living half a mile west of Mr. throw great light upon the history and anthropology of that remote epoch. Twenty engravings illustrate the article, mostly from photographs taken on the spot. Por-Each could hear the other monning and traits of Madame Dienlafoy and her husband

The June Forum opens with a discussion of the latest theological centrovery now attracting the attention of protestant theologians; the Andover movement touching the doctorine of future probation, in which that doctorine is discussed. Mr. Lang, the novelincredably short time. Not only this but ist, tells about "Books that have helped me; children of the Whitehead family, were Prof. G. J. Romans wrote on "The Object of Life:" John Fulton gives a very potent reason .. Why the Revised Version Has Failed." the doctor forbade Mr. Barber's family vis- The other articles are "False notions of Government," "On Things Social," "Railway Passes and the Public" in which that troublesome subject in most ably treated, "An Evil of the School," &c., making a most interest

The Jane Wide Awake will be locally interesting because of the description it contains of the Sandwich, Mass., glass works, telling how the beautiful ornamental glass is made. We all have seen bottles blown, but Chas. Egbert Craddock begins a new story that is sure to be delightful. The papers on "Fairy Folks" now brings us to the water. union of these two hardy and intellectual neighbors, prompted by the same family sick and her illness was generally believed Chas. Egbert Craddock begins a new story

> The June Popular Science Monthly to as also a local interest, as showing the immense advantages Ottawa has as a glass making point over Pittsburgh in the cost of sand, which there costs about \$2.00 and here 60c. a ton! The article "Grains of Sand" describes the process of getting sand there ready for the glass houses. The second article on "Are Railroad public Enemies" appears and a delightful article, "Astronomy with an Opera Glass," as well as a timely article "Theology under changed Conditions,"for the popular reader; while men of more scientific tendencies will find the number up

The June St. Nicholas opens with a charm ing frontispiece by Frank Russell Green, entitled "A Day Dream." It reminds us that summer is at hand. Those who intend going abroad will not skip Frank R. Stockton's ( EORGE S. ELDREDGE, Attorney of Law Office in Postoffice Block Ottawa, Ill apr delightful "King London;" while the stayat homes will read it, and be able to give points to the travelers on their return. After perusing Mrs. Poultney Bigelow's "Story of a Lost Dog," however, it may strike the reader that, if stray animals are so well necessary for humans to know their way about. While all boys and girls are ready for vacation at this time, some must be gitting "Ready for Business," to these George

J. Manson's article on "A Banker and Broker" will prove very interesting. Curiously enough, there are some young men who will camp out this summer, by way of getting ready for business. They are the West Points cadets, and their life in camp is capitally described in "Winning a Commission," by Lieutenant George I. Putnam; DR. G. MILLIFIR, the well known Ocults and Aurist, Ottawa, Ill. Office, over Lynch's dry while General Adam Badeau shows what an goods store, Main street. while General Adam Badeau shows what an unpleasant business theirs may be in stirring H. M. GODFREY, M. D., L. R. C. 8 paper on "Sheridan in the Valley."

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The frontispiece of the June Century is a striking portrait of Count Leo Tolstoi, the Russian novelist, the impression of whom upon an American is recorded by Mr. George Kennan, in a paper entitled "A Visit to Count Tolstoi." This account is the forerunner of a series of papers which is to appear later, making record of a hazardous trip to Siberia, in 1885 and 1886 by Mr. Kennan, for the purpose of investigating the Russian exile system. Mr. Kennan's present paper gives a graphic description of Count Tolstoi and his home, and sets forth some of the novelist's peculiar religious and social opinions as elaborated in conversation. The Lincoln his tory approaches the contest of 1860, by considering the event which lead up to it; the attack on Summer by Brooks and the Dred Scott decision. The war papers reach Cold Harbor, by Gen. Law. Probably no more valnable articles are printed in the issue than Atwater's "How Food nurishes the Body," and that by Rev. Mr. Munger " Education and Social Progress." There are an abundace of seasonable papers, poems, stories,

Our Little Ones for June is as pretty as help him at the "raising"—an enterprise of idence here they were put through a serious an interesting paper on "Sir Thomas Dale's ever, and the little one will be delighted

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